

Kentucky TRT Newsletter

January 10, 2005

Happy New Year! Kentucky Department of Education

Volume 1, Issue 1

Master Plan for Education Technology

<http://www.education.ky.gov/KDE/Administrative+Resources/Technology/Master+Plan/default.htm>

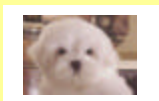
Marco Polo Kentucky

<http://www.education.ky.gov/KDE/Instructional+Resources/Marco+Polo+Kentucky/Default.htm>

Marco Polo Gram
<http://www.mped.org/marcograms/Jan2005.html>

Check out STLP project:

<http://www.danville.k12.ky.jr/activities/clubs/cybercats/pets>



Kentucky Department of Education Teaching Tools

<http://www.education.ky.gov/KDE/Instructional+Resources/Curriculum+Documents+and+Resources/Teaching+Tools/default.htm>

Kentucky Technology Resource Teacher (TRT) Newsletter

By: Earlene Cool, (TRT Coordinator)

“Coming together is a beginning, staying together is progress, and working together is success.” -- Henry Ford

I hope that your winter break provided you the opportunity to relax and enjoy family and friends. We, the Technology Resource Teachers (TRTs) are amazed at how fast 2004 flew by. At the same time, we are excited for what 2005 will bring. While improvements in instructional technology are progressing, we will make great strides as a team. Everyone's help is needed; therefore, I am publishing our communication mechanism within this newsletter. The purpose is to network, share regional needs and celebrations. We will share authorship for our TRT newsletter and share with the Instructional Support Network to coordinate planning, professional development and instruction. In each issue TRTs will report news from their area of the state regarding learning strategies and ideas that work. If you have ideas that you would like to share, please contact me at ecool@kde.state.ky.us or your TRT.

Students Step Up To Train Teachers By: Sherry Thomas, (TRT)

Who do your teachers turn to for technology help when their Technology Resource Teacher (TRT) is not available? In Christian County, a teacher or school has more than one source of help when seeking assistance with their school or teacher web page. While each school has a technology resource trainer to provide training on web pages, the teachers and staff can also make appointments with high school web design students to visit their schools and work on creating and maintaining their school and teacher web pages. Katey Shepard, a member of Tracy Pelletier's Web Design class at the Career & Technical Center is shown here assisting a teacher, Nancy Sims, at Belmont Elementary with her teacher web page. Mrs. Pelletier's students have also trained elementary grade level Student Technology Leadership Program (STLP) students on web page design in order to provide extra support for the teachers at their respective schools. After such training, these newly trained elementary students are then able to assist teachers within their schools on maintaining their school and teacher web pages. By teaching the teachers new web design skills, the students not only learn valuable work place skills but also fulfill student and teacher technology standards to prepare them for the Twenty-first Century workplace. For more information about this student involved technology integration program and how you can begin a collaborative program in your own district, contact tpelleti@christian.k12.ky.us.



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January TRT Meetings

1/11/05 Area 7 – Elliott County
 1/14/05 Area 6 – Somerset
 1/18/05 Area 8 – Floyd County
 1/19/05 Area 5 – Anderson Co.
 1/21/05 Area 1 – Dawson Springs
 1/24/05 Area 2 – Bowling Green
 1/26/05 Area 4 – Carroll County
 1/26/05 Area 3 – TRTs meet every Wednesday. Jaeger Education Center

Contact Earlene Cool at ecool@kde.state.ky.us for more information about the monthly meetings.

Websites of the Month

The Great Animals Activity Center – <http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/lac/menu.shtml>

Children's Books Online <http://www.magickeys.com/books/index.html#books>

Art Ideas

<http://www.sanford-artedventures.com/>

Kentucky's technology resource teachers (TRTs) provide on-site and on-demand assistance for fellow teachers to create different forms of learning and teaching with the help of technologies. They seek to improve student learning by showing teachers the thoughtful applications and best practices of these new tools. Indications show that TRTs, carefully chosen and wisely used, are more effective in helping teachers incorporate technology into teaching and learning than any other form of professional development.

New Year Goals for Area 7 TRTs

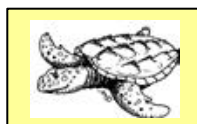
By: Jean McClelland, (TRT)

As the New Year begins Area (region) 7 has set some lofty goals. Many of us are confronted with equipment our teachers have as yet to integrate into their classrooms. Fairview District, Fleming County, Greenup County and the Ashland District all are making resolutions to implement more area wide use of Smart Boards. Along with the Smart Boards there are the usual clickers, projectors and laptops to pry out of the hands of the veterans and introduce to the novices.

As always we continue to work with our teachers to integrate more technology into their classes. In the Ashland District TRTs are continuing to collaborate with their teachers in a series of workshops that will introduce them to webquests, digital cameras, and digital storytelling. In Fairview their new Classroom Performance System is going to keep the TRT hopping from one class to the next. Elliott County is ambitious in that their goal is to integrate Visual Communicator from Serious Magic into their Elementary School. They want to make announcements and share school news each day in a morning news program. Because the project is so labor intensive students from the high school have volunteered to help produce the show. Their ultimate goal is to produce a video for next year's STLP showcase. By the end of the year 2005 we all hope to have super techy teachers competing for the use of clickers, computers and curriculum-based programs.

Sea Turtle Tracked by Georgetown Students

By: Donna Davis, (TRT)



Fourth Grade students at Stamping Ground Elementary and Fifth Grade students at Northern Elementary School are learning about endangered species through the use of technology. Sea turtles are among the endangered species. Sea turtles are being tagged with GPS devices. These devices allow researchers to track the movements of the turtles by recording their migratory patterns. From the study of the data collected students can synthesize the information and make predictions about what may be effecting the sea turtle population. The students are exposed to lessons on the use of the GPS and the recording of waypoints. This will help them understand the tracking and the exact position of the turtles. Data points will be recorded weekly on a class map. Lessons on conservation are incorporated. Students will then write a feature article about a different endangered animal and share with the class. The students and teachers are using information obtained from <http://www.seaturtles.org>. Clip art for the sea turtle provided by: <http://school.discovery.com/clipart/category/scie6.html>

"The Challenge of every team is to build a feeling of oneness, of dependence on one another because the question is usually not how well each person performs, but how well they work together." – Vince Lombardi

Web Pages Abound in Jackson County

By: Jennifer Lovitt

Jackson County Public Schools are excited about their teachers having classroom web pages. They have recently purchased School Center which is an online service used for creating web pages. School Center makes maintaining a web page a simple procedure. One of the compelling features of School Center is a library with thousands of clipart images including animations, banners and backgrounds. Users will also be able to add their own graphics, have unlimited storage for images, documents or any other type of information they might want to make public on the web.

By the end of November, 75% of the teachers in the district had been trained to use School Center. Many now have current web pages that are utilized by students and parents. Teachers are publishing homework assignments, links to content specific websites, general class information and more. One high school teacher has utilized the message board component to allow her students to continue with book talks outside the classroom. For more information visit the Jackson County website, www.jackson.k12.ky.us.

Some clipart provided by: <http://office.microsoft.com/clipart/default.aspx?lc=en-us>